## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

- 1. (Currently amended): Ultra opaque coated <u>printable</u> sheet, which comprises a coloured opaque support made from a single ply of paper based on cellulose fibers, said support being coated on at least one of its faces with one or more white pigmented coats <u>such that said printable</u> sheet has an ultra opacity index of more than 92.
- 2. (Currently amended): Sheet according to claim 1, which has an ultra opacity index of more than 92 at least 94.
- 3. (Previously presented): Sheet according to claim 1, wherein its whiteness measured according to standard ISO 11475 is more than 75.
- 4. (Previously presented): Sheet according to claim 1, wherein the single ply of paper comprises coloured opacifying pigments in bulk.
- 5. (Previously presented): Sheet according to claim 1, wherein the single ply of paper is covered by a precoat of coloured opacifying pigments.
- 6. (Currently amended): Process for manufacturing a sheet according to claim 1, wherein at first a coloured opaque support is made from a single ply of paper based on cellulose fibers, and this support is then coated on at least one of its faces with one or several white pigmented coatings such that said sheet is a printable sheet having an ultra opacity index of more than 92.

- 7. (Previously presented): Process according to claim 6, wherein the deposit of the white pigmented coat(s) is made using a curtain coating head.
  - 8. (Canceled)
- 9. (Previously presented): Process according to claim 6, wherein opacification is obtained by incorporating opacifying pigments in the paper bulk.
- 10. (Previously presented): Process according to claim 6, wherein opacification is obtained by depositing a precoat of opacifying pigments either using a size press or using a coating device, on the paper surface.
- 11. (Previously presented): Process according to claim 10, wherein the coating device used to deposit the precoat of opacifying pigments is a curtain coating head.
- 12. (Currently amended): Process according to claim 6, wherein the sheet has an ultra opacity index of more than 92 at least 94.
- 13. (Previously presented): Process according to claim 6, wherein the opacifying colouring material used is carbon black.
- 14. (Previously presented): Ultra opaque playing card obtained by the process according to claim 6.
- 15. (Previously presented): Sheet according to claim 2, which has an ultra opacity index of more than or equal to 94 and a grammage of less than 300 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- 16. (Previously presented): Sheet according to claim 2, which has an ultra opacity index of more than or equal to 98 and a grammage greater than or equal to 300 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Amendment Serial No. 10/502,446 Attorney Docket No. 042573

- 17. (Previously presented): Sheet according to claim 3, wherein its whiteness measured according to standard ISO 11475 is greater than or equal to 78.
- 18. (Previously presented): Process according to claim 11, wherein the deposit of the white pigmented coat(s) is made using a curtain coating head.
- 19. (Previously presented): Ultra opaque playing card obtained using a sheet defined according to claim 1, as its base.
- 20. (Currently amended): Ultra opaque coated <u>printable</u> sheet, which comprises a coloured opaque support made from a single ply of a plastic film covered by a precoat of coloured opacifying pigments, said support being coated on at least one of its faces with one or more white pigmented coats, such that said printable sheet has an ultra opacity index of more than 92.
- 21. (Previously presented): Sheet according to claim 20, wherein the plastic film is a coloured plastic film.
- 22. (Currently amended): Sheet according to claim 20, wherein the sheet has an ultra opacity index of more than 92 at least 94.
- 23. (Currently amended): Process for manufacturing a sheet according to claim 20, comprising:
  - providing a coloured opaque support made from a single ply of plastic film covered by a precoat of coloured opacifying pigments, and

Amendment Serial No. 10/502,446 Attorney Docket No. 042573

- coating this support on at least one of its faces with one or several white pigmented coatings, such that said sheet is a printable sheet having an ultra opacity index of more than 92.
- 24. (Previously presented): Process according to claim 23, wherein the coating is made using a curtain coating head.
- 25. (Currently amended): Process according to claim 23 24, wherein the precoat of coloured opacifying pigments is deposited using a curtain coating head.
- 26. (Currently amended): Process according to claim 23, wherein the sheet has an ultra opacity index of more than 92 at least 94.